

## United States Attorney Southern District of New York

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE JULY 28, 2004

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## THREE SDNY PROSECUTORS NAMED RECIPIENTS OF 52<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL ATTORNEY GENERAL'S AWARDS

DAVID N. KELLEY, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced today that three Assistant United States Attorneys who represented this Office are recipients of the  $52^{\rm nd}$  annual United States Attorney General's Awards.

AUSAS DANIEL RUZUMNA and former AUSA DANIEL MARGOLIS are recipients of the John Marshall Award for Asset Forfeiture for their outstanding dedication, diligence, and professional skill in the investigation of and civil forfeiture action against Sawan Exchange Company, an operator of an underground money transfer service known throughout the Arab world as "hawala."

From its headquarters in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, Sawan Exchange arranged for the transfer of millions of dollars from the United States to Iran entirely beneath the radar of United States regulatory authorities. RUZUMNA and MARGOLIS employed a novel approach to combat such hawalas by seeking

forfeiture of approximately \$2 million in funds transferred to Iran, charging that Sawan's hawala operation constituted the "supply or exportation of service from the United States to Iran," in violation of the Iran sanctions program. After traveling to Dubai and obtaining key admissions from Sawan's executives in depositions, MARGOLIS took the case to trial, ultimately agreeing on a record settlement moments before closing arguments.

ROBERT W. SADOWSKI is a recipient of the John
Marshall Award for Trial of Litigation for his work on <u>United</u>

<u>States v. The Shubert Organization, Inc.</u> AUSA SADOWSKI was
nominated for his extraordinary work investigating, and
successfully negotiating consent decrees on terms extremely
favorable to the Government in this civil rights case brought
under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (the "ADA")
to remedy discrimination against individuals with disabilities
at 16 landmarked Broadway theatres.

As a result, the Shubert Organization was required to install accessible wheelchair and companion seating locations and aisle transfer seating, and will sell tickets for a certain number of wheelchair seating locations on the orchestra level at reduced balcony prices. Under the consent decrees, the Shubert Organization will provide accessible entrances, exits, interior routes, and services, such as telephones, drinking fountains, ticket windows and concessions. Due to SADOWSKI's efforts, people with disabilities will have an equal

opportunity to experience the entertainment events offered in the Broadway theatre district, which is part of America's cultural heritage and is visited by hundreds of thousands of tourists and New York City residents each year.

The awards were presented today at a ceremony in Washington, D.C.

Mr. KELLEY said: "We are pleased with the recognition. The award-winners exemplify the high standards of our Office - going the extra step, making the extra effort to ensure that the people are served, that justice is done."

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